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IN THE U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: SANO et al. Conf.: 8796  
Appl. No.: 09/701,303 Group: 1615  
Filed: November 28, 2000 Examiner: R. JOYNES  
For: CONTROLLED RELEASE PREPARATIONS HAVING  
MULTI-LAYER STRUCTURE

REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, DC 20231

April 29, 2002

Sir:

In reply to the Examiner's Office Action dated January 29, 2002, the following remarks are respectfully submitted in connection with the above-identified application.

REMARKS

Claims 1-8 are pending in the above-identified application and stand ready for further action on the merits.

Claim Rejections Under 35 USC § 103

Claims 1-8 have been rejected under 35 USC § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Sano et al. (EP 0659406) in view of Chen et al.

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